

PROCEEDING

781

Concerning the Improvement of all manner of

16:8:

LAND

And also for all sorts of

LEATHER.

VVith many Addresses unto Parliaments, and
other Supreme Authorities formerly in Power

AS ALSO

Petitional Motions unto the Supreme Authority of this Na-
tion, the Parliament of the Commonwealth of *England*, *Scot-*
land, and *Ireland*, and the Dominions and Territories thereto
belonging, that they would be pleased to make use of the Pro-
poser, in entertaining his abilities with Acts of Parliament ac-
cording to the Lawes of this and all Civil Nations; that then he
by he may be ~~improved~~ lawfully and honourably to put in exercise
his undertakings: The profitable Effects and Conveniences of them
being hereafter sufficiently proved and cleared.


All which Designs are undertaken to be performed by new wayes and means,
more speedy, cheap and easie than hath hitherto been discovered, and ac-
quired by the Industry and diligent search into the Mysteries of Nature,

Of THOMAS DUCKET, Esq;

Very well deserving the perusal of persons of all degrees, that
love ingenuity, and the more flourishing prosperity
of the Commonwealth.

LONDON,

Printed by Thomas Leach, May the last, 1659.



The Preface.

It please your Honours,

The alterations in State affairs, and other occurrences, being so many as are hereafter published, do therefore require this Preface or Introduction, whereby to give satisfaction unto your Honours and all good people that have so long expected the fruition of what is here rendered.

The Contents of all after repetitions giving sufficient proof and reason to convince all objections and crosse Arguments; As also a Previante of his Bills as they were prepared by Council Learned in the Law, and afterwards approved of by Committee of a former Parliament, deputed for that purpose, who made their report of the said Bills, as also of the Proposer's ability to perform the Contents therein contained, who they should be passed into Acts of Parliament. And although the intent of all hereafter declared may seem tedious in the perusal, yet questionlesse your Honours and all worthy Perusers will think the time well spent, for that many Ages never had the like Tender, nor have delayed such hopeful Successes; and therefore may have required a larger Scope to demonstrate the great benefits this Nation might long before this time have received, if that such causes as are after recited, had not obstructed the Settlement.

And that your Honours may receive an Account from the Proposer why he doth expostulate, and drive so close and home against persons that he doth conceive to have been and likely to be, Antagonists to such rich and transcendent hopes; although no such person hath as yet published himself in print to be an Enemy to these new principles held forth; for answer thereto I am to let your Honours understand.

First, albeit none but of unreasonable impudence, and depraved nature, dare let the world judge of their Folly, by subscribing their Names to such a dangerous discomposure of a national benefit, notwithstanding their high pitch in Envy; yet they dare vent their spightfull invectives against the Proposer in malicious and contemptible frothy discourses behind his back; so that since his first Addressēs, which were many years agoe, the Proposer hath been subject to the pressure of Multiplicity of provocations in several companies by spightfull and perverse Detractors, in headlesse and absurd Arguments, especially by those who have thought themselves pregnant and Powerfull; and there can hardly be a greater plague upon Earth, than to be liable to Evil Tongues, and Censures, as the Proposer hath alwayes been, which cannot be redressed, for that the Company of those self-conceited Criticks, who will rail against any man's principles but their own, are numerous, and it is better to have one, two, or three, of such malevolent spirits to answer unto, if they durst publish their Malignancy in writing, than a thousand others, whom reason will not satisfie, but will at all times, and in all companies, belch forth their spight and Envy against any thing which exceeds their common capacities; but this many times turns to their own disgrace and shame, when the Proposer discerneth just cause to joyn in contest with them, some part of their presumption arising from the Proposer's long delay in gaining an authori-

ty, to put in Execution what he hath so long held forth, and divers other uncouth Arguments, as barren of reason as that aforesaid.

But the Proposers cause being just, doth give him the advantage to master them by Reason, and confute them by Arguments, so much as is sufficient to dash out of Countenance any unbelieving Criticks, Busie-bodies, Quibbling Sophisters, Pickthanks, trifling Icerers, Buffoons, or froward Humorists, composed of indigested Ignorance; and the virtue of those Truths, which the Proposer holds forth, doth so much outbear their brain-sick Arguments, that it doth increase the Malevolency of their Spleens, to malign all his proceedings with Gall and bitterness, which is the cause this relation is so fully proved, to give such Evidence, as may convince them in behalf of the Commonwealth.

And therefore it is high time for the Proposer to apply himself to your Honours for a speedy Settlement of the Premises, to the end that he may perform such service to the Nation, as may quite extinguish all contradiction by cavelling Detractors, especially those who are impudently resolved neither to see or hear, although their own Conscience convince them, and bring them to the unwor by Odium in the old Proverb, being there is none so blind, as those that will not see, and none so deaf, as those that will not hear.

And for this cause, by way of Addresse, the Proposer could present no lesse than what doth hereafter follow: for of necessity there must be the full substance and property of his designs, with their proofs of performance, and answers unto all self-ended Objections, and cavelling Expressions, touching the commodity or discommodities of Improvements, together with the Proposers justification of his person and reputation, and proofs and attestations of his knowledge and abilities, as also of the high Degree and Magnitude of what he hath attained unto in Natures Storehouse, with many liberal applauses of the virtue of his new Enterprises, and with more reiterations, than is usual in repugning, and publicly defying persons that formerly have, and still may, breath noisome Air against laudable Actions, that are above their Meridian, and are thereby prodigious to their own good, and the Nations pleasure and plenty.

And also treating of the glory that your Honours may attain unto, by entertaining these Tenders, which conduce to a national Improvement, and therefore with good cause, humbly craving your Honours serious view and review of the Proposers real integrity in these works tendred, wherein your Honours will discern just cause for all these ensuing expressions; and will thereby the better be induced to hold excused, all the rehearsals and recitals in this dictate, that could not be explained without reiteration and repetition, to introduce some addition of new matter, fit for observation, though much of affinity with what hath been aforesaid.

And although the full observation of the contents, and the many large promises therein contained, may unto the vulgar capacities seem ostentatious; Yet your Honours prudence will on the contrary weigh them as they are, touching an universal benefit, and that these new discoveries may be a preferment to the Nation in general, or to Nations generally, and your Honours will perceive just cause to confesse, that the Theoretical, Methodical, and Practicall proceedings in renowned enterprizes, ought to be supported with a more Magisterial fullnesse in words, than can belong to the hope of gaining some small profit, of little value, and short continuance; And therefore by your Honours cannot be esteemed vain boasting. But if there should escape my pen some faulty branches, yet I hope it may in wisdom by your Honours receive a pardon, according to the Proverb, of giving a loser leave to speak, that hath spent and disbursed the best of his year, and the best of his estate in this faithful service, and hath had no encouragement

The Preface.

agement, or returns suitable to his merits, the which would nettle the pen of any but those Naturallists, who do study & observe the conditions of men, with as much circumspection as they do the natures of Creatures, Minerals, and Vegetatives. By which inspection, they have acquired so much discretion as to sleight and undervalue those constitutions, whose natures want true season, or some degrees of concoction, to operate in fullness of vertue and knowledge, the which the Proposer doth represent to your Honours, as a just reason of the great pains and much patience the Proposer is driven unto, in seeking meanes by all lenity to convince erroneous opinions, by offering all manner of civility and civil argument, to their curst contradictions, thereby to calm them with Reasons, and satisfactory Arguments: for the Proposer hath no other way to qualify their Malice, unlesse it were in giving some of the chiefest in pride and presumption, some special share and partnership, in the honour and profit which ought to accrue unto the Proposer and his posterity, by virtue of those Trophies, that Nature and Industry hath indowed him withall.

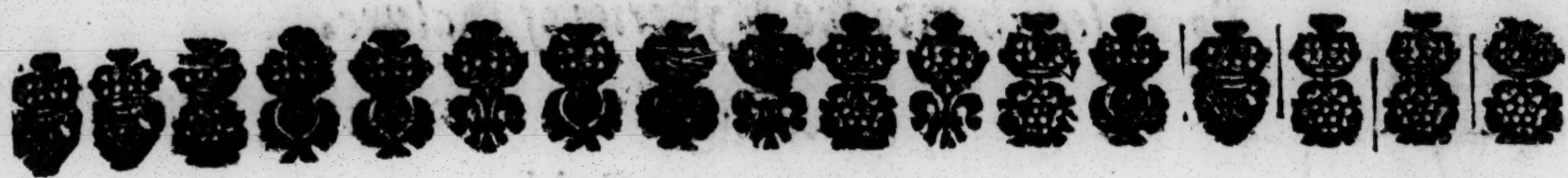
The Crest belonging to the Arms of Ducket, is an Ostridge feather gules invironed in a Crownnet of Gold,

And therefore for quietnesse sake, and a more easie proceeding, that the way may be cleared of all such interruptions to a national good, The Proposer could have willingly thereunto condescended, but that the Heraulds at Arms, and other honorable Antiquaries, would have thereby just cause to take Recognizance of the Proposers Transgressions, as to the disgrace of his Name, Descent, and Pedigree, whereof he is so sensible and tender, that whensoever he doth make room for such a blot against his Friends, and falsity against himself, then let those Officers aforesaid, joyn in defacing his antient Coat of Arms, by creating the Embleme of some corrupt vermine or beast of prey, to be placed upon the Authors antient Coat of Arms, instead of the present Crest, as an allusion that he so unworthily submitted to pragmattick greedy persons fraughted with Avarice, but empty of Goodnesse, and that Falsehood had overcome Truth, contrary to the known Maxim.

And thus the Proposer in his faithfull indulgence to your Honours, and the weal publique, could not possibly say any thing lesse, than what is herein, and in the ensuing Relation to be expressed, the length and prolixity whereof, he hopes will be the rather dispenced withall, because that things of so large and general a concernment, could not without prejudice and Injury to the matter be wound up and concluded in so concise a brevity as proceedings of small consequence; yet all the contents require not above the twelfth part of a Natural day to be perused, scanned, and considered of; But because many persons cannot admit of so much time to peruse the whole, the Proposer thought it necessary to give some good part of satisfaction in every page, or leaf; the contents whereof, with all humble submission, the Proposer refers to your Honours great wisdomes, as also what may seem improper or imperfect in this dictate, or the Printers mistakes, the Proposer doth likewise submit, having already too much intrenched upon your Honours patience, who are further to be used in the premisses and therefore, what ever else ought to have been said, yet in good manners, and order, there must no more bee said, but only that the Proposer in all constant faithfulness is resolved to be,

Your Honours in all devout
and devoted Obedience,

Thomas Ducket:



An Introduction to a Remarkable Breviary in Verses which are drawn in allusion that this Nation may receive as much glory and wealthy preferment by the Industry and new Inventions of Thomas Duckett Esq; as other fortunate Nations have gained by imbracing the Discoveries of persons famous in Knowledge and Action.

To the Worthy Reader,

I Having been a long time Servant to the Author of these ensuing Transactions, and Conversant in his Agitations, and now being imployed by him to attend the Impression hereof, containing several rarities of Nature by him brought to perfection for the advance of this Nation, and many other significant advertisements to the high Court of Parliament concerning the settlement of a glorious national preferment in honor and wealthinesse, being Masterpieces of that eminence as they deservedly merit the approbation of the Universe, called to mind a Poetical Breviary of the said Mr. Ducketts undertakings, done by a Person of worth, being Fellow of a College in Cambridge, who having had experience of the said Mr. Ducketts abilities in many things as to Improvement of Land, and having himself viewed, and had the Testimony of divers Tanners and other knowing Persons, that the Leather made by the said new Art, did far exceed all former Tannage, in this or other Nations, thereupon was pleased, upon the grain side of some of the said Skins, to give an Epitomy of the real perfection, and excellency of the said Mr. Ducketts Art, and Ability to perform his undertakings for Improvement of Land and Leather; which for the Concisenesse of them, being composed in a few lines in Verse, and so full of matter, that they could not be expressed in many sheets in prose, I therefore in reverence of the gravity of the person and his Verses, and the Truth therein contained, with their just allusions to honourable Atchievements, gainfull Inventions, and lively explanation of the Glory and Profit which might ensue to this Nation, could not contain myself, but assume the boldnesse, without their privacy, to cause an impression of the said Verses, which may well merit perusal and consideration according to the humble conception of him who is

**A Faithfull Servant to the Author,
And a Well-wisher to the
Common-wealth.**

Richard Cookson.

1659.

To his wortbily honoured Friend Thomas Ducket Esq; upon his diligent search into the Mysteries of Nature.

Jason brought
the flock of
fine-wool
sheep first into
Spain.
Virgil the Ro-
man taught
Husbandry.
The Chinois
devised the
making of Chi-
na dishes.
De Serres
brought into
France the
making of silk.
Columbus
enriched Spain
by discovering
to them the
Gold and Sil-
ver Mines
of India.

The Author of
these verses
doth allude the
renown that
England may
possesse by the
Proposer's Inge-
nuity, unto the
good successe
that Spain en-
joyeth by that
sort of sheep,
that were at
the first
brought thither
by the industry
of Jason; The
which sheep
were said to
bear Fleeces of
Gold, in re-
spect to the
most exquisite
finenesse there-
of, the
Emblema of
which Fleeces
have been
ever since worn
as trophies of
honour to the
memory of Ja-
son upon the

What praise brave Jason got of old,
By bringing home the Fleece of Gold;
What Fame Heroick Virgil wan,
By ayding of the Husbandman;
What benefit the Chinois found,
In the right use of Purpline ground;
What great advance De Serres made,
By teaching France the Silkworms trade;
What wealth Columbus did impart,
To Spain by his Sea-faring Art;
What renown did ere accrue,
To the Inventors of things new;
That worthy Ducket is thy due:
And if authority shall stand,
Thy Friend in these designs, this Land
May as great praise and prize obtain,
As Greece, Room, China, France or Spain.
Thy knowledge then let none cry down,
That by thy Golden Skins is shewn,
Made Leather without Bark at all,
Corrosive Shumack, Salt, or Gall;
Or any Composition which
Beyond Seas came to make it rich;
But with Ingredients of our own,
Whose influence was never known:
Which Leather makes that glory wins,
As if our Beasts had Golden Skins:
Yet puts the Tanners Liquors down,
That Leather makes so coarse and brown;
Compar'd with thine, it is but dross,
An Embleme of the Worlds great losse,
Which had continued but for thee,
Throughout all times Eternity;
Which now thy prudence can divert;
When Honour shall advance thy Art:
By turning Hides to Leather rare,
In shew and glosse like Silken ware;
Soft in the hand, white, plump, and full;
Like felt well wrought of Beavers wool;
In Colour, grain, in strength and touch,
The Universe had never such;

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Whose substance in the lasting wear;
 Doth exquisite, and firm appear;
 And that which makes the profits large;
 'Tis done with little time and charge;
 Since in what Land thou dost derive,
 Thy Science needs in wealth must thrive;
 Yea to confirm how well 'tis Tann'd,
 None of the Trade denies his hand;
 But labours for thy Patents grant,
 Lest we such good should longer want;
 And that by thy encouragement,
 We may enjoy whars eminent
 From others too who shall devise,
 Hereafter new discoveries.
 Besides in Husbandry thou dost,
 Supply with little pain and cost;
 Where Nature to defect declines,
 In Barren Lands, Fruit, Trees, and Vines;
 What former Authors did not reach,
 Thy pregnant Judgement now can teach;
 New Methods of perpetual gain,
 Nature by Natures to sustain:
 The drought of Land thou canst prevent,
 By Art and watery Element;
 Thou canst suppress the force of weeds,
 That grasse doth Choak, and kills good seeds;
 With wealthy secrets thou canst fill,
 Those Nations shall embrace thy skill:
 Thou hast recourse to Natures store,
 To fortunate both rich and poor
 With wealth of such a large degree,
 That all good men will pray for thee;
 Thy skill is such, that to conclude,
 With what rare gifts thou art indu'd;
 Few can conceive in the extent;
 And what makes all more excellent,
 All's thine, to silence barking tongues;
 That to the Mine and Mint belongs;
 So that his parts must be Divine,
 Who can in part but add to thine.

Jeremiah Collier.

breasts of the
 most famous
 Monarchs of
 Christendome.
 And by that
 type or figure, it
 may as clear &
 properly be said
 that the English
 Cattel do bear
 golden hides &
 skins, for that
 Mr. Duckett by
 his transcend-
 ent new Art
 hath achieved
 unto the glory
 and honour of
 converting
 them into the
 most exquisite
 Leather of the
 world in value
 and perfection.

The Leather of
 the new make
 is very tough
 and strong, and
 will not rot by
 wet, nor wear
 out neer so soon
 as Leather of
 the old make.

This or any o-
 ther Nation
 that hath this
 skill may be
 enriched wher
 the Inventor
 doth communi-
 cate his Scien-
 ces.

The Author al-
 ludes the In-
 ventors know-
 ledge in several
 mysteries to the
 Mine & Mint,
 in relation to
 his Theoretical,
 Methodical,
 and practical
 parts, as also
 to his rich dis-
 coveries that
 are of as great
 goodness as
 mines of Gold.

Handwritten text in a column on the left side of the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is mostly illegible due to fading and the quality of the scan.

Handwritten text at the top of the page, possibly a header or title, also appearing to be bleed-through or very faint original text.



Large, bold, stylized letter 'T' or '7' at the beginning of a line of text on the right margin.

Vertical column of text on the right margin, starting with 'oth', 'get', 'the', 'cy', 'and', 'T', 'tif', 'Co', 'lia', '16', 'da', 'tin', 'Ho', 'to', 'se', 'on', 'no', 'fin', 'la', 'ki', 'ti', 'de', 'pr', 'ri', 'se', 'g', 'je', 'th', 'b', 'o', 'd', 'c', 'v', 'S'. This appears to be a list or a series of words related to the main text.



A Narrative of the Proceedings of Thomas Ducket Esq; &c.

THat the said *Thomas Ducket*, by his great charge and study in Natures operation, hath (by Gods assistance) discovered several rich, and profitable Secrets, Arts and Mysteries, for the Improvement of all sorts of Land, by destroying of all sorts of Weeds, Trash, Shrubs, and other Incumbrances, Raising of Waters, Creating of a new soil or manure; Together with more expeditious cheap and easie actions, and motions to perform the same; And likewise for the improvement of Leather of all sorts, in excellency and perfection of Strength, Grain, and Colour, being designs of great honour and plenty for *English* People.

The Real performance of which Inventions, first as to Land, was testified by Certificates under the hands of many persons of Honour and qualitie of several Counties unto you the Right Honourable Members of this present Parliament, not long before your Honours were dissolved, being in April the 23. 1653. for before those accidents, and alterations in State, your Petitioner did daily solicit the worthy and most renowned members of this Parliament then sitting, that they would be pleas'd to peruse and take into consideration in the House, the Bill he had prepared by Council learned in the Law, to be passed into an Act for improvement of Land. But multiplicity of State-affairs (as it seem'd) or else new inventions in these *Septentrional* Countries seeming strange, or else National Malediction did retard the settlement of such good fortune, notwithstanding the exact and clear descriptions of the particulars, and the confirmation of many honourable and worthy persons as aforesaid, who attested, and largely satisfied your Honours of the Proposer's ability to perform his undertakings: yet nevertheless your Honours not putting a dispatch to so great a National advantage, occasioned a doubtfulnesse in the Proposer, lest his publick tenders, amongst the generality of people, might be reflected on him as nothing but pretences; and that he were not able to set forth any additional thing that were rich, and good for improvement of Land, more than what former ages, and present times had, or have produced. And thereupon the Proposer, minding the good of his Native Country, and the honour of his own reputation, to avoid all jealousies, mistakes, and controversies of any doubtful, captious persons, who through their own imbecillity might conceit that what he had so held forth were but a superficial shew, without any reality at all; or if he were a master of such skill, that then it was bottomed beyond the reach of ordinary understanding, and so deep, that it did require long consideration, and State policie to discern the depth, scope and centre thereof; although the case is evident, clear, and void of all suspicion and controversie, and would be speedily embraced in any Southern Nation, for these three reasons, *viz.*

First, for that it cannot choose but be a universal benefit to any Nation.

Secondly, because no Statesman, nor any belonging to them, or any other person,

The Proposer's undertaking.

The reality of his inventions for land attested by many persons of honour and quality.

New inventions being a wonder to the apprehension of some people hath been a chief remora.

No cause of neglecting so good a tender, for three reasons.

1.

2.

son, shall be charged with any cost, trouble, or damage, until he have a full knowledge, and possession of the skill.

3. Thirdly, no person is, nor shall be compelled, without his especial desire and consent, to make use of any of the said Inventions, or to take a license for that purpose, neither is any man to be restrained by vertue of such an act, from making use of all, & all manner of courses in husbandry, Arts and Mysteries, that have ever formerly been used, or are at this present in common use and practice, neither debarred of any of their accustomed exercises, but only of those new discoveries, and additions to former practices, which are and shall be published and manifested.

The Proposer to convince all dubious minds, and to make known his ability in Land, did demonstrate his skill in the mystery of Leather.

Therefore to prevent these and such doubts, suppositions, and other obstructions, the Proposer having long since by his studies in the mysteries of Nature, acquired a most strange, and unheard of secret, never before discovered, in this or former ages, which is of so high a degree of Consequence, in richnesse, and rarity of art, that for the convincing of all erroneous minds, thoughts and words, as to his ability in knowledge, He did by his new inventions, convert many score of raw hides, and skins into leather, without Bark of Oaks, Ash, or any other formerly used ingredients; as also did make leather of a more rich and profitable condition, than ever yet was known, by assisting, and bettering of all former known practices, with new means, and additional ingredients, and liquors to be mixed and compounded with bark of Oaks, and all others formerly used, which is, and may be performed easier, speedier, and with lesse charge than formerly: which did, doth, and may demonstrate his knowledge to be far more profound, and beyond the reach of all sorts of Artificers, although they have been Masters of such practice as hath ever been by tradition used *since this part of the world was civil zed.*

The excellent perfection which the Proposer hath attained unto in the said art and mystery.

Yet notwithstanding the highest degree of perfection that they have attain'd unto by their long practice, by way of embleme and pattern, to make an uncontrollable certainty in the judgement of all wise and judicious persons, the Proposer having achieved the knowledge, did produce that most admirable Masterpiece for all that are concerned in Leather, that thereby your Honours, and the world may know, that his reach and understanding in improvement of the fertility of all sorts of lands, doth, and may in all likelihood in the particulars of his intended discoveries, as much surmount the practice of any Actors, and Authers in Husbandry.

The cleare esse of the propo-sers skill and ability.

And upon these grounds the Proposer took the pains to demonstrate the great Mystery for Leather, before he had any Act for the improvement of land: but if an Act for improvement of land had been granted, his actions had been so significant to the purpose, beyond what is practised by others, as would have induced such a full belief with your Honours, or any other supreme persons authorized, that his own promise and assertion, would have supported his undertakings as to Leather, to be of such current truth, that his pains in setting forth a demonstration of tanning of Leather according to the new mystery, might have been spared as a needlesse impertinency.

The Propo-sers good will to benefit his native Country.

But the Proposer observing the variety of minds, and tempers of people, and changes of government, with the like, did hold it necessary to make the world sensible of his abilities by those actions, as aforesaid, and then when he had created so good a belief, it had been a great want of prudence and good mind in the Proposer, if he should have neglected his addresses to any supreme Authority

that

that next ensued your Honours. First, in regard that he was stricken in yeares: Next, because he had a great zeal to lend his assistance to help his own Native Countrey, before any foreign Nation, and some other causes supported by the rule of discretion, occasioned him in an elaborate way to make his addresses unto every sort of supreme Authority, from the dissolution of your Honours as aforesaid until this present time; and that he might be more certain of gaining an authority for the exercising of what he so held forth, he first cleared all doubts and queries by significant demonstration of several parcels of Leather so tanned and tawed; and likewise by certificates thereupon from most of the chief Tanners, and other tradesmen as to Leather, of several Counties in and about London, to his late Highnesse Oliver Lord Protector, and his Council, and likewise to the Committee for trade, then in power, the which Committee by order summoned a numerous company of Tanners, and other tradesmen as to Leather, to give their approbation, and testimony of the said Leather, the which persons so summoned, did not only under their hands, but likewise themselves in person, affirm and testify of the goodnesse of the said Leather, and of the ability of the said Thomas Duckett to perform his undertakings, and of the great benefit that would arise thereby to the three Nations, and earnestly requested a speedy settlement of the premises.

did cause him to neglect no opportunity to get a settlement of his business.

By the means of which proceedings, his late Highnesse Oliver Lord Protector with his Council were so fully satisfied herein, that his Highnesse forthwith granted the said Thomas Duckett two several Patents for the sole exercise and benefit of his said inventions for improvement of Land and Leather for fourteen years; which upon consideration, and perusal by the said Thomas Duckett's Counsel in the Law, they were found not to be of sufficient power and validity to make him a secure title, by reason of the multitude of the people he was to deal with, as to land, and certain Statutes, and especially some Statutes as to Leather, prohibiting the use of any other liquors or ingredients, but Bark of Oaks, and other ingredients then in use, and limiting set times in Tannage; the maker of such Statutes (by all likelihood) not imagining that any better way or invention could be found out, by the means whereof it proved this nations unhappiness, to be suppressed, delayed, & hazarded in the hope of the accommodation of those rich & precious benefits that might then speedily have ensued by power of Broad-Seal Patents, if those foresaid old acts had not frustrated the progresse and exercise of the premises.

His late Highnesse Oliver Lord Protector's grant of Patents.

Reasons why the said Patents were of no validity.

For although it fell out, that those old barres in Law proved to be against the law of right and reason, yet neverthelesse there was no remedy to avoid the same, although it were to the daily losse and prejudice of the people, and must have so continued, until the errors of those former Parliament lawes were through the prudence of some new Parliament-Magistrates, discerned, deserted, and repealed, to make way for better opportunities, and then the Proposer by a Parliamentary act impowred.

And upon these, and some other accounts and procrastinations, the said Thomas Duckett was in reason necessitated to forbear the discovery of his designed intentions, and so did until there was a Parliament assembled at Westminster, in September 1656. where then the Proposer after addressing himself and his cause unto them, then after sufficient debate, and through the virtue of several Certificates from many worthy Patriots conducing to land, as also the new testimony of his late Highnesse Oliver Lord Protector and his Council, as to Land and Leather

The Tan-
ners ad-
dresse and
certificates
to the Par-
liament
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mittees for
Trade, of
the Propo-
sers ability

ther, as also the Certificate of the chiefeſt Tanners, and other tradesmen as to Leather, recommended unto the ſaid Parliament, together with the appearance of numerous companies of Tanners, and other dealers in Leather, at ſeveral times, did make their perſonal addreſſe unto the whole body of the houſe of Parliament in that behalf, and alſo when occaſion required did preſent themſelves at other times, unto ſeveral Committees of Parliament, and at laſt through very much inveterate trouble, perplexity, tediousneſſe incident to *Engliſh Proceedings*; afterwards this enſuing report was made in answer to a grand Committee of that Parliament, by power of an Order granted by them unto a Sub-Committee, the words being thus returned, viz.

The re-
port of a
Committee
of Parlia-
ment.

The Report.

IN obſervance of an Order of this Committee, bearing date the 23. day of December laſt, we have examined, and conſidered of the propoſals and new inventions of *Thomas Duckett* Eſq; for the improvement of all ſorts of lands and alſo for the converting all ſorts of raw hides, and ſkins into leather, without Bark of Oaks, or other uſual ingredients; & upon conference with him, his reaſons and demonſtrations hath given us good ſatisfaction, as well of his abilities, as of the benefit that may come to this Commonwealth thereby, and we are the more induced to believe the ſame, for that his Highneſſe and Council have certified on his behalf, and likewiſe many other perſons of worth and quality in ſeveral Counties to the ſame effect.

And we do farther report, that we have ſuperviſed his bills for improvement of Lands and Leather, and have made many alterations and reſtrictions therein, and do humbly conceive that the ſaid *Thomas Duckets* undertakings deſerve all due encouragement, that this Commonwealth may enjoy the benefit thereof.

Dated the 1. of May
1657.

Henry Pickering.

Richard Timbs.

Robert Weſt.

The Committee con-
ſiſted of 5 or 6 but any
three or two were im-
powred to report.

The bills
likewiſe
prepared
by the ſaid
Committee.
Sir Hen-
ry Pick-
ering order-
ed to move
it in the
houſe.

Cauſe why
the buſi-
neſſe was
not ſetled.

After the return of this report from the Sub-Committee unto the Grand Committee, together with the two bills for Land and Leather, as they were prepared and made fit to be enacted, it was then reſolved, and ſo ordered by that Grand Committee, that the then *Henry Pickering* Eſq; now *Henry Pickering* Knight, one of the Sub-Committees (whoſe name is unto the ſaid report) ſhould with all convenient ſpeed, wait the Houſe daily for an opportunity, and there to move the Right Honourable Speaker Sir *Thomas Widdrington*, to give way for the publication of thoſe bills ſo prepared; and the ſaid Honourable Speaker was made acquainted therewith, who was very willing to give way to the ſaid Sir *Henry Pickering's* motion, in cauſing the bills to be read, and he in his loyalty and goodneſſe to the Wealpublick (being well ſatisfied of the propoſers ability, and the great advantage that hereby might ariſe to the Nation) was contented to aſſiſt thoſe proceedings; and rather then the buſineſſe ſhould receive any delay by the motion of Sir *Henry Pickering*, he was honourably pleaſed that thoſe bills ſhould be moved as private bills by himſelf; but juſt at the time when moſt of the Members were acquainted with theſe Proceedings, and were in a readineſſe to give audience as to a ſetlement, then it ſo pleaſed God that the ſaid *Thomas Duckett*

Duckett

Ducket was visited with sicknesse, so that he could not attend the House, but was forced to let his business lye dormant and proceed no farther; in which time of his sicknesse, the Parliament was first adjourned, and after their next sitting suddainly dissolved; And now through providence your Honours (with whom were my first proceedings and addressees) being reinvested with the Power and Authority, from whence this Nation may receive those fortunate successes which are to be presented by the Proposer, who hath the good fate once more to make his Addressees to your Honours, although at present your Honours are full of publick employment, yet the Proposer well knowing (that setting aside the security of the Nation) there is not any thing in the House in agitation, that may better advance a flourishing plentie to your Honours and the people, than the entertainment of the premises, which in the peircing eye of Prudence, is a most notable, pretious, publick business, and cannot be denied in the Reason, Judgement, and Wisdom of your Honours, although this Nation is haunted with some injurious ignorant persons, that will not stick to affirm it to be but a private business, in regard that the Owner, Founder, and Messenger of this mystery, lays claim (according to the Law of Nations) to be gratified for fourteen years with some small diminutive reward, whose penurious unworthy condition'd language, or customary equivocation to quibble this Land out of a Success and Character, must needs consist of a pestiferous male-diction to all ingenuity, insomuch that they do endeavour to blast the glorious Law of National requital of laborious Masters in profitable new discoveries, with the odium of Monopolies, unless that such inventors of rich enterprises and high discoveries, do give the honour and profit thereof, unto the Members of State, and be content to stand unto their reversion; and questionless there are many, that will whisper some great man to that purpose, although those so whispered cannot but discern, that they, with those pickthank Flatteries, would fain allure Magistracy, into a Monopolizing those achievements which they never sought nor sweat for. And if your Honours do by Argument and Reason contradict those Motioners, as to a course improper, yet they, or such as they are, will start some other quarry, saying, Why should not the Inventor disclose all his skill and manner of action, as well as demonstration (unto some great Members of Parliament) in every particular, before that he hath an Act passed? And that it were good policy in any Committee to urge and press the Proposer home to that point. Now then, when any of your Honours do reply, (as questionless you may and will) That, if that the skill were made known to any Members of State, that then, they the said Members are bound, by virtue of their trust, to publish all policick profits to the Nation, without any imposition of payment for any skill, that is before-hand made known, unto their representative, who by receiving such intelligence from the Inventor, were thereby disabled to make a Law to that effect. And that the Master of those Mysteries may better dispense with the breach of promise, than the whole Nation with the trust reposed in any of its Members. Again it may be answered (questionless) that the Proposer will not yield unto any such thing, in that the likelihood of the profits of his discoveries, do farr surmount (as to the benefit of the Commonwealth) the value of ten, twenty, or forty Gentlemens Estates, setting their places or power aside: And again, that those persons that are studious in any mental mysteries, and are of perfect knowledge therein, doubtless are so Judicious, that they will not deliver their principles

The designs are of so great worth that they merit the result of the Parliament, more than any other business except the security of the Nation.

Sordid Calumniation by De-tractors.

And other Cavillations.

Reasons that the Proposers undertakings are not to be discovered to any Members of Parliament, or others, without a settlement first granted.

A discovery in reason not to be requested before the settlement.

The inconvenience that may arise to the Proposer and others by making a discovery to any without an Act.

to the possession of others upon any such uncertainties, nor will they be guided in any unstable course, for fear of losing their benefits, and making themselves a simple President to other Authors and Founders; neither will it become Members of State (in point of honour of the whole house) to motion any design unto the Proposer concerning his inventions, wherein there were any doubt of hazard; and for him the Proposer, to submit to such adventures, is too much below the Honour of a person so endowed.

What kind of persons Detractors are, and from whence their natures are, and what is predominate over them, and what they are addicted to.

And thus with trouble and woful experience, the Proposer is able to Characterize the disserviceable part of those puzzling Incendiaries, that out of rancour will endeavour to forestall all good actions and intentions, whereby your Honours may easily discern, that their prating and practice hath a great affinity, with the skill and artifice of *Achitophel*; these their agitations plainly shewing, that such persons are none of those godly wise men, who, as the Scripture saith, doe command the stars; For certainly, these wretches, for want of Grace, do permit malevolent planets to predominate over them, even to the naturalizing of their minds, to the love of mischief to others, and the impoverishing of all but themselves, they being owners of some small heap of drossie substance, so much as doth advance and support them so to overlook other mens matters as to breed disturbances, controversies, and cruelties, or else they would not project, and monopolize so many insolencies, to divert the Settlement of Plentie.

No person at one penny charge in settling the discovery but the Proposer.

And certainly those that have been adverse to these proceedings are none of the wisest, in seeking to hinder themselves from the good successe of profitable inventions atcheived by ingenuity; it may be they may be wittie, craftie, subtile, and inplacably politick, but yet want Judgement to discern, that there is no profit on the face of the earth, that raketh his first entrance of settlement, with so little charge and pains as new discovered mysteries; For in all sea practices and proceedings, and all land affairs and actions, the events require charge, time, venture, losse and hazard, and many times ill successe doth crosse those enterprises: But in the entrance of these proceedings, to accommodate the Nation with knowledge, there is not one penny losse, not a sheet of paper to any Clerk, nor fee to a subordinate Officer, but what must and shall be satisfied by the Proposer, after that your Honours have breathed out the concluding vote of an Act for the establishment,

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It hath been reported, that *Charles* the fifth Emperour, and *Philip* of Spain called by his Subjects *Philip* the wise, and other Monarchs great in wisdom and power, said, it was very fitting that if it did so fall out that any person relating to them, did pretend a new discovery of any new Art or Science, or profitable Manufactory, if it were tendred without a charge, or cost at first entrance and entertainment thereof, that all such affairs should be lovingly embraced by all men of reason, first for avoyding the discouragement of industry, Secondly, for that if any one rarity of new skill, or but any part of a special skill prove current, feasible, laudable, and profitable to a Common-wealth, then if one of twenty such proffers did thrive effectually and prosperously, the trouble of Settlement was recompensed more than an hundred times treble; yet this Proposers designs being many and severall, and also visible and perfect, to the eyes of sence, and ears of understanding, and as freely proffered without any cost as can be expected, have been retarded in the settling, by the means of such per-

sons as have, and will, if they may be permitted and believed, still endeavour to stupify the ears of Authority with false pleadings, to the great losse and inconvenience of the people, and instead thereof gain the Nation a disgrace, being a thing very unreasonable and shameful.

Now if these Emblems of the seditious and spiteful blasters of the blossoms and flowers of welfare, will not abate their crooked resolutions, then may they range where they please, and sow tares where they list, provided that your Honours will vouchsafe, to make it one of your principal businesses to supervise the laborious works and producements of the Proposer, with more eager conspicuity than formerly, and then he is confident your Honours shall find his performances, to be a sufficient antidote against the putrified Air of those, by whose breath tares (as aforesaid) and other weeds and land impediments would be continued and increased, if your Honours prevent it not, and take hold of occasion, and condemn such peevish Criticks, in owning these proposals as a publick business of Parliament, whose profitable effects to the Nation may well support it with the true title of the same, although the Proposer will not exclude himself, and the name of *Duckers*, of that Honour and share that the Laws of God and Man affords them, which must be so if he would comply with an *Ignoramus* to himself and Friend, in disclaiming a moderate satisfaction, which no way can arise unto him and them by any false, uncouth, sinister, delusion or evasion, as will presently be made manifest for satisfaction of your Honours, and for calming the boisterous tempestuous winds of all that are envious, needie, greedy or factious, unless (the Author of all mischief) be in it.

A caution not to regard such Calumniators.

The Proposer stands upon his credit and reputation in justification of his business.

Certainly all opposites (though never so ill minded to others) would gladly have payment for any goods they sell, and reciprocal returns for civilities, favours and Friendships, with a full recompence for any good service, if they be of a capacity in any of these (as seldom they are) and according to that the Proposer doth but expect to be respected with some little and mean requital, far beneath the desert of his great service to the Commonwealth, in which Proceedings no man can be jealous of any falsehood, whereby he might delude, and draw the Nation to raise him a profit far transcending the benefit of his discoveries during the fourteen years; for if his designs are of little consequence, small profit, and hardly of any use, then hath he with disgrace lost all his former time, and charge, yet none but himself damnified. And if they prove moderately profitable, and prosperously worthy of use, and of some sufficient benefit, then will the shape, size, and quantity of his reward be suitable according to the beneficial assistance the Weal-publick receiveth. But if his designed discoveries should prove to be of a most vast valew in additional honour to your Honours, and a wealthy prosperity to the Commonwealth, then by a true rule of proportion, a fair and fitting well-deserved honour, and large recompence the Proposer doth conceive himself (against the World) to be a meritorious deserver of. And if the numerous small compositions for Licences from all that make use of his discoveries should arise to great sums or Mulcts, yet in despite of contradiction the performer is a well deserving owner thereof, and questionless will shew himself as able in distribution of what he hath gained, upon charitable good wayes and uses, as he was industrious in achieving and accomplishing the possession of the same; for who doth know but that he is naturally addicted unto the relief of the poorer sort, and the practice of laudable actions there-

Every man will look for a Reward for what he doth sell, or doe for any man.

The Proposers reward will be according to the merit of his designs.

If his designs prove successful and good his recompence ought to be accordingly.

The Proposer Charitable intentions.

therewith in some eminent degree of Religious pious charity, such as may be as great a president in good works, and gracious liberality, as he hath been studious in advancing welfare and plentie.

A strange case that such wealthy designs should be retarded by detracting self-ended people. The Proposer will not submit himself to any disgrace, to be a discouragement to ingenious persons for the future. The Proposer good will to benefit his Native Countrey demonstrated by keeping so long his secrets undiscovered to foreign Nations. The Proposer studies and natural inclinations considered, why may not God bless this Nation as well as others to breed a person of remarkable parts fit perpetually to be memorialized?

Is it not then strange that upon these weak barres of persons indigent in discretion, or the like incidences, or Epitomes of envy and wretchedness as are afore described, that the Proposers designs might then be raised to the high name of a special publick business, and not otherwise? This is very rigid in those that would endeavour to have your Honours adhere therewith, but must necessarily be a great debasing of the Proposers discretion, and very much beneath any Naturalist that hath achieved to perfection in smaller mysteries, and therefore he cannot submit to such an ignominie, without a foul scorn and disdain therein to be guilty, as also by such actions to become a discourager of any Academick, or other ingenuous persons, who in this, or ensuing ages, shall, or may attain unto eminent knowledge in the mysteries of nature, or the like.

The Proposer hopeth, that he deserveth better things than these intricacies of his native Countrey, in reference to his good intentions of their future prosperity, as also his care of their honour, they being so dilatory in the settlement of their own welfare. Yet hath the Proposer hitherto had the patience not to send his discoveries into any other Nation, although often solicited to that purpose by several agents of those foreign parts, that would have raised thereby their own riches, and advanced their pleasure in farther laughter and derision at the people of this Nation, for slighting and letting passe the opportunity of every new renowned enterprize.

For it hath been noted, that many nations and territories of the world have produced some persons of singularity in all arts, sciences, faculties and callings, and all derived from the Meridian of invention; the which illustrious excellence of persons renowned, have adorned most part of the universe with the splendent glitter of glorious discoveries, their names and qualities needing no recital; for that no intelligible person is ignorant of their particular excellence, in Wisdome and Knowledge; and seeing that it hath pleased God to bless other parts of the world with messengers of transcendent gifts, why then should England be obnoxious to their own honour and profit in neglecting the employment of the Proposer? whose intellectuals were ever naturally from the spring of his youth, addicted to the love of profitable rarities, and new inventions in the Theorick part of Elements and temperaments, and the methods of practice, with as much willingness to enrich his native Countrey, in resembling former founders of high and mighty things. Yet with all humble obedience in his submissive apprehension, he hath aimed and endeavoured at knowledge, with as much earnestness and eagerness as to his undertakings are recited, with as full intention, as any of those surmounting persons that acquired so much fame and glory to themselves and their Native Countries. The which your honours may experimentally know by making use of the Proposer, who is able to fill up the room and places left void and barren, with the fulness of skill, and better advantage in husbandry, and other mysteries and manufactories which were left at too low a gage of perfection by former discoverers; the which may by vertue of the Proposers care be more perfectly established and settled, and thereby as he hath had place, liberty and room left him for such performance that others could not do: so when he shall have perfected what hitherto hath been left undone in the premises, he certainly then shall justly merit a place of remembrance in those lists and

and rolls in which learned Authors and Historians have recorded the honour and dignity of former renowned Discoverers, the which preferment is one of the greatest desired by Naturalists, they having felicity in fame beyond the possession of Riches.

Now if these motives of truth and reason may occasion these humble motions to be in some convenient time dispatched and settled, then will your Honours be made famous with the glory of all those prosperous agitations and descriptions, together with all sort of satisfactions, which are at large described in this ensuing address; to the end that your Honours may be fully satisfied of those rich land affairs, whose wealthy income will in many degrees surmount the indigency which this Nation is often incident unto; and the real assurance thereof will appear more evident by your Honours perusal of this following description, whereof this first part hath relation unto, which will in truth and reason outbear all misconstructions, sordid suggestions and pretences, and all such malignant Incendiaries, as do, as aforesaid, endeavour to divert the laudable intentions of the most renowned Magistrates, from settlement of any great and publick good or benefit, which is like to ensue to the Commonwealth in general, and to the particular honour of those who intend to be the chief promoters thereof, who may receive ample satisfaction by proof, as to Land, and experimental demonstration as to Leather, arguments to opposition, and response to queries in all the aforesaid passages in about an hours time, if cause there be that any Honourable Member require the same.

The great honour and profit which the honourable Members of Parliament will attract by a speedy settlement of the premises.

Any Honourable Member of Parliament may receive ample satisfaction in the premises in less than an hours time.

And now the Proposer having given a sufficient account of his proceedings, humbly craveth your Honours favour to spare a small time in perusal of what is hereafter to be said; which questionlesse will induce as great a willingness in all worthy Patriots to countenance, and further a speedy settlement of the premises, for the benefit of their respective Countries, as was performed by his late Highnesse Oliver Lord Protector, and prudent Council, in their grant of Patents, as was before expressed. And by such a settlement the Proposer will be cleared of the Aspersions of various censurers, who often make doubts and suggestions by reason of the Proposers many expressions and writings, and that he hath been so long in performance of what he hath held forth; not considering that it was divers Alterations in State, Barrs in Old Lawes, Mortality of some gracious Friends to good works, Sicknes in the Proposer, and sundry other procrastinations, which hindered and delayed the prosecution, and actual performance of the premises, and not any failing, or disability in the Proposer, who hath followed his agitations with so much eagerness, that it hath stirred up many detractors, who out of envy to such high undertakings, breath out trifling insurrations against the Proposers person and undertakings; and others ambitious not to be outstript in Ingenuity, or to see another mans increase of honour, express and cast forth strange, and uncouth prevarications, with private emulations, that if not discerned, might corrode the hold this Nation might take of this present opportunity, in advancing their greater plenty, which they themselves might live to see, after authority is granted to the Proposer, and other Nations prevented in their hope of Englands declination thereof, as they have formerly done Columbus, and many other Ministers of profit, which in this case would appear more strange, for that the charge of acting, performing, publishing, and giving possession of the premises, will come clear to the Nation, without the cost of one penny, and the charge incident to the settlement will be very little:

Reasons why there hath hitherto been no performance of what is held forth.

Depravours objections answered.

The Proposer
renounces all
bye ends or fa-
vour, other
than a legal
settlement.

and moreover the Proposer will carry on his designs and undertakings, until they be clearly discovered, at his own charge; for he stands upon the points of his reputation, and just meaning in these particulars, and all others, as he hath done all his life time, (if not mistaken) and renounces all benefit from any person in the world, in reference to his undertakings, with as much detestation as is proper to the most worthy Obliging person in the world, or any favour, other than that Law of fourteen yeares privilege, for the Exercise of his Inventions, as is peculiar in such Cases, for the encouragement of all those who by their Studies and Endeavours, have attained unto high and laudable discoveries in Elemental mysteries.

what mischief
Depravers may
do in a Nation.

And as much as lies in the power of the Proposer, touching himself and his designs, the people of this Nation shall not be guilty of the first president of ingratitude, and suppression of any flourishing prosperity, which might illustrate the glory of this and other Nations: Therefore God forbid that the arguments of self-ended and detracting persons, or any such that want parts to understand Mysteries; or vulgar wits, that love old customes or dull actions, more than profit; or spleeny Cynicks, who will speak against all things, and like nothing but what they do themselves; or any such opposites, who may now make it their business to obstruct the Proposers proceedings; should divert, and prevail with your Honours, to let such an Emolument and Ornament of a Nation fall to the ground; especially considering that Store can be no Sore, and that there is sufficient need for profitable supply, and no want of lawfull power of prudent Magistrates; and under favour of your Honours, no lack of serenity or ability in the Proposer, to give his Native Country the first Livery and Seisin of those rich inventions, wherewith he is indued. Neither are there any barres in Law, or any obstacles to blind the Nation from the lively view thereof, but only the damp and foggy air arising from dulness, or the dark clouds of brow-bent malice, or the faithlesse, fruitlesse blatings of incredulity, or such like ill-aspected motions; unlesse that any such barking and bawling depravers, can face to face, before the Honourable Members of Parliament, disprove, or make appear any thing against the faithfull Integrity, Skill, Knowledge, Person, Parts or Undertakings of the Proposer: but if such persons shall not ground their opposition on Truth and Reason, but think to bear it out with a liberty derived from falshood and ignorance, they will find themselves deceived, and in danger to runne the hazard of bringing a lasting disgrace and *Odium* upon themselves, for unworthily endeavouring to obstruct and hinder the increase of such honour and fertility, as might be advanced to the enriching of your Honours Treasury, and the Commonwealths future happinesse and prosperity. And by this means the expectation of all worthy persons, may be satisfied; the Pest of envy, antidoted; the Author, and all other persons studious in good works, encouraged; your Honours, eternally magnified; and this our Air and Climate purged of all the contagious infections of Spirits Malevolent to high and worthy principles; wherein they have not abilities of apprehension to discern the various mysteries of Nature, which the world plentifully affordeth unto all those who are serious Observers of her Essence and Deity, and diligent Searchers into the Multiplicity of her Natural Effects and Causes, with her other Contingencies: which the Proposer all his life time having been studious, and conversant in, hath attained to the knowledge and perfection, chiefly of these ensuing Designs, and many others not herein expressed: which if hereafter entertained and settled, may as well as the rest, be very advantageous to the Commonwealth.

The Proposers
defiance to such
Depravers.

The

*The particular Heads of which Inventions, contained in the Bills
aforementioned, for the Improvement of all sorts of Land
and Leather, are as followeth;*

First, The said *Thomas Duckett* undertaketh to take away for ever, the greatest part of the prejudice and damage which is caused in Land, of several sorts, by reason of Heath or Ling, Fearn or Brakes, Rushes, Sedges, Reeds, Thistles, Nettles, Mosses, Broom, Furze or Gorse, Brambles, Bryers, Blackthorns, and other Incumbrances, destructive to the growth and goodnesse of Corn and Grasse, or prejudicial and hurtful to Pasture, Meadow, and arable Lands.

1.
The Proposers
undertakings
for Land.
To destroy all
manner of
Turf.

Secondly, To improve, and enrich the value and goodnesse of Land, where the Turf is shallow by reason of Gravel, Sand, Rock, Clunch or Chalk, lying too near the Superficies of the Earth, that there is not a sufficient depth of Soyl to be plowed; so that it is altogether unprofitable Land for Corn, neither will it bear any considerable quantity of Grasse. The which Improvement is and may be performed, without the usual great charge and paines of carrying Lime or Dung of Cattell upon the same.

2.
To improve
Shallow Soil.

Thirdly, To keep a great part of all hilly, dry, rising grounds, by water, more moist and fertile; not with any great chargeable Engines, Leaden Pipes, Pumps, or any sort of Mills or Water houses, or any new way now in practice, or held forth; but by ways & means slight, cheap and easie, by ordering of Lands in various shapes, figures, and proportions, for compassing, and gainecoping the drift and course of Waters; and by Engines and Instruments of small value, from five shillings price, unto five pounds and upwards, portable for either man, horse, or cart, according to their several sizes, as the depth of the water, and the height of the ground shall require; which will carry up, and gain advantage of waters so much, as thereby Lands may be soaked, and kept more moist and fertile, and dry places in Summer may be supplied with water.

3.
To keep moist
hilly dry
grounds.

Fourthly, To make a sort of rich Soyl fit for Agriculture, and Manuring of ground, much of the nature and effects of Lime, or Dung of Cattell, where Lime or Dung of Cattell is scarce, and is to be performed with small charge and paines.

4.
To fertilize
Land with a
new Manure.

And also the said *Thomas Duckett* undertaketh, (whereas Bark of Oaks, Ash, Sumack, Galls, Salt and Allom, being the principal ingredients now used in Tannage, are very scarce and dear, and likewise harsh and corrosive) To discover and teach all Tradesmen as to Leather, a profound Art and Myltery, never before practised in this Commonwealth;

The Proposers
undertakings
for Leather.

First, to make Leather without any the Liquors or Ingredients now in use, in shorter time, and with lesse charge, far to exceed all former Tannage, in excellency of Grain and Colour; and more lasting, firm and substantial, fit for all manner of service, according to the nature, sizes, and degrees of the hides and skins so Tanned and Tawed.

1.
To tanne Lea-
ther without
Bark, &c.

Secondly, If any Tradesman as to Leather, be desirous for custome sake, or some other private ends or reasons, still to make use of Bark, or any other Ingre-

To make Leather by mixing his new Ingredients with the old.

dients, now in practice; The Liquors and Ingredients invented and found out by the said *Thomas Duckett*, are of such virtue and quality, that if by his directions some of them be mixed and compounded with the former used Ingredients, they will make far better Leather, and in shorter time, than is, or can be made, by the only and single use of Bark, Sumack, or any other Ingredients now in common practice, and the harsh and corrosive qualities of the old Ingredients, will be very much diverted and abated by mixture of the new.

To prepare raw Hides and Skins for more speedy and better Tannage.

Thirdly, the said *Thomas Duckett* will discover Liquors of such rare perfection, that will clarify and prepare all sorts of raw Hides and Skins, for more speedy and better Tannage; Either in Liquors and Ingredients of his own invention; Or in Liquors of his own mixed and compounded with those formerly used; Or in Liquors made with Barke, Sumack, and the rest now in Common practice; And further the said Liquors are of such influence, that they will relax and soften the Natural hardnesse in raw Hides and Skins, and cause the Callus and Gelly in them, to be more expeditiously digested in the Tanning or Tawing; And moreover the said Liquors will prevent the putrifaction incident to great Hides intended for Soal Leather, for the Tanners by Stifeling them on great heaps close together, do taint and perish them on the Grayn side, with a rottenne, as is apparent by the easy cracking of them if forced or bended.

The Promoter undertakes to discover his new Arts.

All which said Arts, Mysteries, Secrets, and Inventions, both for Improvement of Land and Leather, the said *Thomas Duckett* undertaketh to make known in print or otherwise, for the publique good of this Common-wealth, and to direct and teach the method, use, and practice of them.

The real performance of which Inventions, are sufficiently attested, and cleared as aforesaid, and need not so great Evidence, but that any rational person will Conceive that the undertaker is well versed in the Mysteries of Nature, and able to perform many rarities of skill and knowledge for the Improvement of Land; seeing that by his study in Natures Operation, hee hath attained unto the whole scope and body, of the Science and Mytery, for converting all sorts of raw Hides and Skins into Leather, beyond all expectation and probability, as is actually made apparent, for that the make thereof, transcends in such a degree of goodnesse, all former Tannage, as never was performed, or accomplished, by the most profound Ingenuities of this or former Ages; And it is apparent that much Land continueth sterill and barren, for want of help to assist Nature, Land holders and Land-owners having been hitherto as Stupid and Negligent in Improvements, as Tanners and others were in Improvement of Leather.

A present convenience for Tanners.

And if there may be now a speedy settlement of the premises, it will be an Extraordinary help and benefit to all Tanners, and other Tradesmen as to Leather, who will thereby save great Charge and paines, which otherwise they must be at in seeking for Bark, and other Ingredients, to furnish themselves withall, which are both Scarce and Costly.

Grant of Settlement.

That therefore the said *Thomas Duckett* in recompence of his great charge and paines, and love to his Native Country, and for the encouragement of all ingenious Artists for the future, may be impowred to have the Sole exercise and benefit of his said Inventions, for improvement of Land and Leather, for fowerteen years, according to the Laws and Statutes of this and other civil Nations.

And may have power and authority during the said Term, to grant Licences

to all persons within the three Nations and the Dominions thereto belonging, to practise his said inventions, which are new, and never before in present or frequent occupation, in the same Method, Form, and Manner, with such additions and alterations; And although the benefit of them be never so great, yet no man is compelled as in such cases in other Nations, to make use of any of the said Inventions, but left at will and pleasure to be Pilots to their own wills.

Humble motions and arguments why there can be no good settlement without sufficient penalties.

And these rich designs afore mentioned, which may so much advance the Commonwealth, being the Rights, and due Treasure of the Proposer, and no other person having an interest and property in them, but himself; that therefore in all Equity and Reason, it is requisite for him by way of Treaty with the honourable Members, humbly to lay claim to some fitting assurance, and square and legal conditions, thereby to be certain of some reasonable satisfaction, for those wealthy benefits, which are by him to be presented to those persons, who are concerned to make use of them, and therefore in all Right and Equity, your Honours cannot but grant him such a power, as is congruent and incident to any venturers, who have used great industry, and spent their best times and fortunes in bringing from foreign parts of the World into their Native Country, some enriching Merchandize, at which time the Owners thereof are at liberty to make their own conditions, with those they furnish; and therefore accordingly that the Proposer may not be defeated of the honour and reward which ought justly to accrue to him, for his new Inventions, which are of far greater value than any kind of Merchandize, and made ridiculous to the discouragement of ingenious Artists for the future, and this Nation subject to the evil effects of ingratitude, and likewise this Act made invalid by evil-minded persons, who although their composition for Licences, will be little or nothing in comparison of their benefit; yet most people are of such perverse and ill-disposed natures, that they will rather endeavour deceitful practices, than be conformable to the Laws; Therefore to prevent such fallacious people, and that his recompence and satisfaction, for his great Charge, Study, and pains, may be answerable to his Merits and Deserts, and that he may have a secure Title, the Proposer under your Honours favour, by way of civil bargain, doth humbly lay claim to such good penalties, as are hereafter to be named, wherein there cannot be a wrong or prejudice to any that mean well, for that all good-minded people, will not make use of the Proposers skill without due Licence, and therefore regard not penalties be they never so great, and those who are of small ability will never run the hazard of them, and moreover those persons who are unjustly and fraudulently intended, may be better ordered and subdued with fear of good penalties, for it will suit with your Honours prudence, and wisdom, that those persons who regard not fear either Laws or Honesty, but wilfully contemn and break them, should be severely punished, and largely suffer; for the use of Justice, will be prevented by a well settled Justice.

These Reasons why the Proposer ought to have good penalties are not included in the Bills.

why the penalties ought to be so great.

And therefore that the penalty of forty shillings may be imposed upon all persons whatsoever, for every Acre of Land, whereon they shall without Licence

first

Proceedings for Improvement of all manner of Land,

Penalties for Land,

first had and obtained from the said *Thomas Duckett* or his Assigns, use or practise any of his wayes, means, methods, or directions, for the improvement of Pasture, Meadow, and arable grounds, in any of the particulars aforesaid; And also the Sum of twenty shillings, upon every Acre of Land, for every years continuing the use of them (without Licence) after Conviction; And also that the penalty of twenty pounds, may be imposed upon all persons that shall make use, or exercise (without Licence) any of his Engines, to carry up water to any Cities, Towns, Villages, particular Houses, or any other places whatsoever, other than for Improvement of hilly dry grounds in manner as aforesaid; And twenty shillings for every days continuing the use of them (without Licence) after Conviction.

Penalties for Leather.

And moreover to prevent unjust and indirect practices by Tanners, that the penalty of one hundred pounds, may be imposed upon any Tanner, or other person, that shall (without Licence first had and obtained from the said *Thomas Duckett* or his Assigns) make, use, or practise, all or any part of his wayes, means, directions, Liquors, or Ingredients for the Tanning, Tawing, or preparing of Leather as aforesaid; And forty shillings for every dayes continuing the use of them (without Licence) after the first Conviction.

How the penalties ought to be recovered.

And that the Offenders in any the premisses aforesaid may upon Oath of two Witnesses, before one or two Justices of the Peace be Convicted.

And that all Justices of the Peace, may be impowred and required upon such Conviction, to issue out their Warrants to the Constables of the place where the Offenders live, for the levying by distresse, the aforesaid penalties.

No false Pretenders or Counterfeiters.

And that no person whatsoever (may without Licence as aforesaid) alter, Counterfeit, Change, or falsify, either by addition to, or subtraction from the same, or other alteration, all or any the aforesaid Inventions, Engines, Instruments, or other utensils, Manure, Liquors, or Ingredients, either for improvement of Land or Leather as aforesaid, thereby to pretend him or themselves, to be the Inventors or Devisors thereof, upon pain of the forfeitures and payments aforesaid.

Penalties for Printers, &c.

That whereas Printers, Stationers, Booksellers, and other persons, may by false and counterfeit Books and Copies very much wrong and prejudice, not only the said *Thomas Duckett*, but likewise the Commonwealth; That to prevent such inconveniences, which may thereby arise, a good penalty to the value of one thousand pounds, may be imposed upon them, for printing or putting to sale (without Licence) any of his Books or Copies of Directions, either for improvement of Land in any the particulars aforesaid; Or for Tanning, Tawing, or preparing of Leather as aforesaid; And also to forfeit five pounds for every Book or Copy of direction, which they shall print or expose to sale, after the first Discovery and Conviction; And the said penalties to be recovered by Action of Debt in any Court of Record in the three Nations, where no essoyner or wager of Law shall be admitted or allowed them.

To be recovered by Action of Debt.

Liberty to make search in case of suspicion for discovery of offenders.

And that the said *Thomas Duckett* or his Assigns, may by warrant from a Justice of the Peace, to a Constable or other Officer, make search for the discovering of such persons, as they shall suspect to make use of any of his Inventions, either for improvement of Land, or Leather, (without Licence as aforesaid.)

That all the penalties and forfeitures aforesaid, are to be divided into three equal

equal parts, one third part to your Honours, to be paid into the Exchequer; one other third part thereof, to be to the said Thomas Duckett or his Assigns, and the other third part to the Informer.

And now your Honours having heard, what penalties have been humbly desired, with Reasons why they ought to be so great, yee will bethink with your selves, what satisfaction and reward, it is fit for the Proposer to expect, and in this case to satisfie your Honours, the Proposer doth not intend, that his recompence and gain, shall compare with a Venturer, or Merchant, that brings in Gold, Silver, Bullion, precious Stones, or Jewels, to grace, pleasure, adorn, and enrich a Nation, who will not part with their Commodities, unless at very dear rates, or the full worth of them; But the Proposer intends not by many degrees to be so costly, to the receivers of the profit, which those whom he hath to deal withall will receive; for although not only the present profit, but likewise the perpetual good and benefit, which will arise, by a comparative rule of proportion, will be extraordinary great, yet the owner of these riches will expect from each particular person, that shall by vertue of a Licence, have the benefit of his Treasure, little more money from first to last of his authority, than the Baggs, Cases, Chests, Vessels, or any other manner of outsidess, wherein those rich commodities were inclosed and contained, and then afterwards all people, are to have both outsidess and insidess, and all rights and privilege to his Discoveries and Inventions, be they never so rich, and profitable, without any payment or acknowledgement, and so to continue to this and after ages for perpetuity.

Alluding his Inventions to Merchandary commodities as a rational inducement though no part of the Bill.

The small and reasonable satisfaction which the Proposer expects for his discoveries.

That no Justice of the peace or other Officer, shall be sued, or prejudiced, for what they shall doe, in persuance and execution of the said Acts.

No Officers to be prejudiced for what they shall do in persuance of the said Acts.

That the said Acts both for improvement of Land and Leather, may be good and effectual, in all Courts of Justice to the benefit of the said Thomas Duckett, Notwithstanding the Statute made in the first year of the reign of King James touching the duty of Tanners, Curriers, Shoemakers, and other cutters of Leather; Or any imperfection in the said Acts; Or any former Act, Statute, matter, or thing, concerning either Land or Leather, to the contrary in any wise Notwithstanding.

That the said Acts may be good and effectual, notwithstanding any former Acts or Customs.

The Breviats of the forementioned Bills, and some other matters inserted in them, being set forth, the Proposer doth prepare these after answers to some objections that have, and may be made by Covetous, Malevolent persons.

AND first whereas it may be objected by some cross people, that improvement of Land, will necessarily induce such a plenty of all things, as will cause a general cheapnesse, and abate the price of all commodities, and by consequence diminish the Rent of Lands, and the revenues of Noblemen, and Gentlemen, by disabling the Tenant to pay his rent (to this it may be answered.)

Several Objections answered as to Land.

That this Objection proceeds from a Root of private interest, and respects only the profits of particular persons, and those who are against improvements are Enemies to the Commonwealth where they live, for improvements do not

Answer.

not impoverish, but enrich a Commonwealth, for these following reasons;

1.
Answer.

No abatement
of Rents by im-
provements.

First although Land be improved, that it bear more Corn and Grasse than before, and that plenty thereupon causeth cheapness; yet the quantity being much more will make that good again and out-bear the cheapness; that there needs no abatement of Rents, for Land will for the most part receive an improvement, proportionable to the value and goodness that it is now of, as for example, if the improvement be to a third part of the value of the Land, then Land of two shillings an Acre will be improved to be as good as Land of three shillings an Acre; Land of twenty shillings an Acre to be as good as Land of thirty shillings an Acre, and so in proportion.

2.
Answer.
More Land
may be spared
for several uses

Secondly, by improvement a lesse quantity of Land, will serve for Corn, and may be sown with Hemp, Flax, Cole-seed, Rape-seed, woad or madder, which will increase a manufacture, and produce an improvement, and maintenance for innumerable poor people.

3.
Answer.
More Land for
Pasture than
formerly.

Thirdly, more Land may be laid down for Pasture, for maintaining milch Kine, for plenty of Butter and Cheese, to relieve the poor, and for transportation beyond the seas, and likewise to breed and maintain great Cattel for provisions for the Land, and Navy at sea, and for the increase of that staple commodity of Leather; and also to breed and maintain sheep for the increase of that other Staple commodity of Wool, for the making of Cloaths and Stuffs, and other commodities; not only for the use of this Commonwealth, but for Transportation, and maintaining innumerable poor people on work.

4.
Answer.
A far greater
plenty will be
raised.

Fourthly, By improvement of Land, a far greater plenty of Corn, Cattel, and all sorts of provisions for Food and Rayment, will be raised in this Commonwealth, insomuch that it may be a Storehouse of plenty for perpetuity, and have so great an overplus of Food and Rayment, as that it may supply and help the wants of Foreign Nations, and so bring vast summes of money, honour and profit to this Commonwealth, and yet have at home such a fulness of plenty, as that the Act for Transportation, made by a late Parliament, may rather be enlarged than abrogated, as now it is in part, several commodities exceeding the Rates in that Act limited and appointed.

Answer.
Rents rather
increased than
lessened.

Lastly, no mans Incomes or Revenues will be lesse, by reason of the improvement, but rather bettered, for their cause of expence in such a plenty will be lessened, and they will have all manner of provisions and home-bred commodities at very cheap rates.

And if fertile bottomes are not better than barren mountains, and if the abundance of the Fruits of the Earth, are not beside a blessing, a great support and establishment of the policy of a Nation, then why do the Lawes of England indulge such privileges to arable Lands beyond Pasture? What mean the Statutes to restrain the converting of arable Lands into pasture grounds, to the hindrance of Tillage? Why are all Heath and other barren grounds exempt from the payment of Tythes, the first seven yeares after improvement, by a peculiar privilege?

A general bene-
fit.

Besides, Improvements are very advantageous for hospitality, and relief of the poor, in setting Old and Young, and all idle persons, to some slight work, who can endure no hard Labour, and so there will be no wandering poor as now, nor any to be relieved, but lame and blind persons, which will be very great honour and profit to this Commonwealth; for that Nation is most honoured, and regarded, by foreigners, wherein is the most fertility and ingenuity.

But

But if there be any who are not sensible of the blessing and advantage of plenty, questionlesse it were fit that such persons would confine themselves, for some years, to inhabit upon the tops of some barren Hills, or Mountains, to make tryal of such provisions, as Nature there affordeth, without the help of improvement, and there to learn by experience, the truth of these assertions, rather than to be convinced by the strength of argument in a plentiful Country, where perhaps the fullnesse of their stomachs may dull the acutenesse of their apprehensions.

And for a further satisfaction of what hath been before expressed, and now especially concerning that staple commodity of Leather.

First, that all Leather made by the new Art, and Invention, of the said *Thomas Duckett*, will in all degrees of perfection, so far exceed all former Tannage, that a great trade may be raised in this Common-wealth, by that Commodity; for in what Nation soever, any new Art, or profitable Science, is first invented and found out, that Nation will for many yeates after, have the sole trade, and benefit thereof, and all Nations will addresse themselves thither, conceiving there will be the best made, where it was first invented; and the chief parts of this new Art participating of rare Mysteries, and neat and private practices, yet are cheap and easy to be performed without the plain and common drudgery now used in Tannage, and may be so disposed of by the Propositor in this or other Nations, that during many score years, no other part of the world may receive any knowledge or benefit thereof.

Upon which grounds, how happy may this Nation be, in the speedy settlement of these Mysteries and Inventions? for the said Science may be many years here kept amongst our selves, and Foreign Nations induced to import their raw Hides and Skins, into this Common-wealth, to be converted into Leather after the said new Art; Or if we please, the said accomplishing ingredients may be sold, and transported at very good rates, into other Countries, where they are not found; for Leather converted after the said new Art, will be of such lasting wear and goodnesse, that a third part thereof may be spared and sold beyond the seas, at double or treble the price that now it is, and yet here amongst our selves, it may be afforded at a more cheap and reasonable rate than now is sold at.

And the ingredients, to prepare the said liquors, are most of them to be had within this Common-wealth, at cheaper rates, than the aforesaid old used ingredients, and will be of good benefit to the owners of the Grounds and Lands, where the said ingredients are found.

Secondly, whereas Tanners are commonly a whole year, three quarters of a year, half a year, and the like, in Tannage, according to the sizes of the Hides, and Skins, they may hereafter by the use and practice of the inventors directions, make far better Leather, and in shorter time, whereby a quick return may be made thereof, which is the only advantage of a manufacture.

Thirdly, although Bark of Oaks, and some other ingredients, now principally used in Tannage are very scarce, and costly; yet by their harsh corrosivenesse, they do very much perish and destroy the stability and fastnesse of all raw Hides and Skins, (which in themselves are some of the wonders of Nature in strength and toughnesse) and thereby Leather is much weakned of its natural force, and no remedy was ever known for the same before this present time.

Fourthly, that Bark of Oakes, and other ingredients used by Tanners, are of such high price and scarcity, that by means thereof, there is very much bad Leather made in in all parts of the three Nations, for want of full and perfect Tannage; And the said trade is like within few ages, to be neer extinguish'd by reason that

Several Objections answered and Reasons for Improvement of Leather.

1. That Nation where this new Art is first discovered will receive the greatest benefit.

And may keep the said new Art a long time secret amongst themselves.

2. The Leather by reason of its goodnesse may be transported into other Nations.

3. The new Ingredients cheap and easy to be found.

4. More speedy Tannage and a quicker return.

5. Bark and the Ingredients now used are harsh and corrosive.

6. The Trade of Tannage like to fail for want of Bark.

Bark

Bark is like to be far more scarce, than now it is, if not in proceſſe of time quite conſumed.

5.
Timber is fel-
led at unſeaſo-
nable times for
the uſe of Bark.

Fiſtly, the neceſſity of the uſe of the aforeſaid Bark is ſo great, that the Laws com-
pel the owners of timber to fell and cut down the ſame, at unſeaſonable times,
when the ſap is in it, which makes the timber ſo much worſe in price and good-
neſſe, as the rate of Bark doth amount unto, and their loſſe in the Bark, will in
great Families be countervailed in the goodneſſe, and laſting wear of the Leather
made after the ſaid new Art.

The ſcarcity of
Bark is the de-
ſtruction of
much young
wood.

Sixtly, that in this time of dearth, and ſcarcity of Bark, Tanners are ſo neceſſitous
thereof, that by giving great prices for the ſame, they do thereby tempt, and
procure the owners of groves and copſes, to make ſale of the ſame, when it is of
very young growth, which if it were not to ſupply the Tanners in reference and
and recompence of their high prices, the owners of many ſuch groves and copſes
would permit and ſuffer the growth of them to continue, untill they came to be
very good Timber, to ſerve either themſelves or their poſterity.

7.
The ſale of
Bark may not
be utterly ex-
tinguiſhed, for
ſeveral Rea-
ſons.

Seaventhly, the ſale of Bark of Aſh and ſome other ingredients, now in Com-
mon uſe, will not be utterly extinguiſhed, for theſe reaſons following; Firſt, by the
mixing and compounding the liquors and ingredients, now in Common uſe, with
his new prepared liquors and ingredients, will take away the corroſive quality of
the old, and make moſt exquisite Leather; Secondly, in ſome parts of the three
Nations, the new ingredients may be ſcarce to be found, and the other ingredi-
ents very plentiful; And Thirdly, ſome Engliſh people are affected very much
with the diſpoſition of their neighbour Iriſh, and are altogether fond of old cuſt-
omes, being a thing, whereunto vulgar capacities are much addicted.

A preſent ne-
ceſſity of settle-
ment for fear
of future diſ-
aſters.

Laſtly, theſe deſigns of ſo great conſequence, which are now in being, and are
to freely tendred for the good of the Commonwealth, may in all likelyhood,
by mortalitie, and other diſaſters (if not ſpeedily embraced by the Supream
Rulers) be as long hid from this Common-wealth, as it hath before wanted it,
for none do know, but that after ages may be as long deſtitute of ſuch an oppor-
tunitie, as former ages have been deficient of it.

A defeat to Co-
verous and
Malevolent
Spirits.

And now the Propoſer hopes, having cleared all objections, with theſe ſatis-
fying reaſons, that now he hath no oppoſite to answer, unleſſe it be ſome
particular perſons concern'd in the ſale of Bark, and the quick wearing out of ill
Tann'd Leather, who reſpect their own private intereſt, more than the generall
good of the Common-wealth, and ſuch as thoſe, he can divert and croſſe by ſeve-
ral wayes, (if they ſhould endeavour to hinder a ſettlement of the premiſſes)
with this one aſſertion, that it lyeth in the power of the Propoſer to diſcover
and make known theſe his ſecrets in ſome induſtrious Foreign Nation, who
being thereby ſkilfully enabled in that matter-piece of knowledge, will attract
unto themſelves ſo high a degree of perfection, in the ſaid Art and Myſtery, as
will highly advance a manufacture there, and ſo much diminith the progreſſe
thereof in theſe parts, as will occaſion Bark to ſell at as low a rate, as if the
Propoſers directions, were here in frequent action: for all Leather made by the
ſaid new Art, will be of ſuch laſting wear and goodneſſe, that it will be moſt in
requeſt, and this Nation will altogether make uſe thereof, and be ſupplied with
the ſame, and ſo ſuch malevolent perſons may be defeated of their covetous in-
tentions, and this Nation attract loſſe, and diſgrace for their incredulitie, and
other contemptſ againſt flouriſhing plenty, and other Nations gain the honour and
profit, which ours, if not obvious to their own good, might have enjoyed by
the ſtudy and induſtry of

Thomas Ducker.

And whereas it is before apparent, that the Liquors, and Ingredients, now used in Tannage, are corrosive and destructive unto all sorts of Leather; So likewise your Honours may be pleased to take notice of the great losse and prejudice this Nation doth suffer, in the dying of those pretious Commodities of Silk and Wool into Blacks, which bring in themselves some of Nature's rarities, are notwithstanding very much perished, and destroyed, for want of knowledge in Dyers, how to divert and qualify the inflaming and corrosive Natures of those Ingredients, which they use in dying black, which prejudice and inconvenience, the Proposer doth admire, that the Naturalists of former Ages could not prevent, it being a thing so easy and open to the Proposers skill and knowledge, although he doth not mention or promise performance thereof in the aforesaid Bills, by reason if he should, now with the rest, tender his service in another so material a business, he should gain distast from the envious and unskilful in Nature's Operations and Secrets, and should unjustly be very much clamoured and repined at by many, for directing how to uphold and continue the full strength and force of Wool and Silk in the dying, which would be great losse to the quickness of the Trade of Dyers, Silkmens, Drapers, Mercers, Tailors, and other Trades as to Silk and Wool: And although it is a business of small difficulty, for the Proposer to set forth a means of redresse, unto all Dyers, as well as Tanners, how to qualify and divert the harsh and corrosive Natures of their now used Liquors and Ingredients, and to make all Silks and Woollen so dyed into black, to be as plump, soft, and strong for lasting wear, as any other artificial colour; As also to strike and permanently fix, those staining, fading, and decaying colours, both in Silk and Wool, which are dyed with Logwood, Brazil or the like, to continue in their fresh and lively Lustre, unto the uttermost wear thereof, and yet without the help of that costly ingredient called Cutcheneal; And although this last clause, concerning fastning of colours in dying, be no great additional help to the Weal publique, yet it will be a perfect new Art of special good consequence, in point of Reason and Ingenuity, to the English people; But the spoiling of the aforesaid rich commodities, by dying them into Black, can be no other than a very unworthy practice, for that it is much losse to men, and questionlesse an offence to God, especially if it may be redressed; Yet England must lose this Master-piece, unlesse the Proposer be desired and encouraged thereunto, by the wise and prudent Magistrates of Parliament. And whereas the Hollanders have now some more honour and profit, beyond this or other Nations, in dying of Blacks, and preserving the strength thereof, yet is not their skill in that particular, of so great and high a degree of perfection, but their Art may be so much exceeded by the English, as will remove the glory and profit which they attract from other Nations, unto this our English Continent, if the Magistrates thereof, in respect of their own welfare, do desire to make use of the Industry of him, who truly honours all those that love the flourishing prosperity of their Native Country, beyond others.

The prejudice in dying of Blacks is easily to be prevented and addressed.

Colours may be made more illustrious, fast, and permanent.

Thomas Duckett.